

who prepared to take part in the first wave of a planned invasion of Japan. Fortunately, that invasion did not occur; but JOHN DINGELL, as always, was ready, willing, and able.

JOHN DINGELL, my colleagues, as all of you know, has served America and its people for most of his life. But it is not the length of his service that we honor alone. It is even more importantly the quality of his service, the depth of his commitment, and the strength of his character that we honor tonight, and JOHN DINGELL who we honor always.

We are all better Representatives because of his example. I congratulate my friend on 75 years—75 years—in the House of Representatives, 57 of them as a Member. JOHN DINGELL has, with diligence, faithfulness, extraordinary skill and judgment, courage and fidelity to God and country, lived up to President Roosevelt's words. He has served with unbounded determination, and he has led a triumphant life. What an example for us all.

A triumphant life not because he won every fight, but because he never gave up. He never was unfaithful to his oath of office. He was never unfaithful to his pledge to support working men and women and, yes, everybody in this country.

My colleagues, JOHN DINGELL today is much like Tennyson's Ulysses who said:

We are not now that strength which in old days moved heaven and Earth. That which we are, we are; on equal temper of heroic hearts, made weak by time and fate, but strong in will to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.

JOHN DINGELL, he pledged to his people when first elected to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.

□ 1920

And he has, indeed, done all of those. He has kept the faith, and we expect him to be keeping the faith for years to come, for that is the spirit of my friend, my colleague, a great legislator, a great American, JOHN DINGELL of Michigan.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I yield back so Mr. BARROW can have the remaining balance of my time.

HONORING JOHN DINGELL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARROW) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Representative JOHN DINGELL, who, this month became the longest-serving Member of Congress in our Nation's history.

Representative DINGELL has taught literally thousands of Members of Congress how to do good things for the people we represent, a legacy he continues to build in his 30th term in the people's House.

I've had the honor to serve with Mr. DINGELL on the House Energy and Commerce Committee. As we all know, oftentimes our schedules don't allow us to stick around for an entire committee meeting, but I always make it a point to stay until Mr. DINGELL is finished. He is such a skilled cross-examiner that, by the time he's finished, we've heard the only questions that are worth asking, and we've got the only answers we're ever likely to get.

JOHN DINGELL's ability to reach across the aisle and find compromise is the cure for what ails this place, and I only hope that thousands more will get the opportunity to learn from the master.

I congratulate Mr. DINGELL on this historic milestone and for his over 57 years of service to our country.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN).

Mr. LEVIN. Well, Mr. DINGELL, there are many aspects of life that I could comment on, for example, friendship.

Our families have known each other well over 75 years, going back to the relationship between your father and some of my relatives. It's been a long time. And I could talk about the friendship between yourself and your wife, Debbie, and our family for part of that time.

I could also talk about your accomplishments, and there have been so many. I remember when I first came, how we worked to clean up the Rouge River; and without your efforts, I think today it would be more like it was than it now is.

We could talk about health care and your historical role. We could talk about broader issues of clean water and clean air. We could talk about your devotion to the auto industry of this country and what would have happened all these years except for your dedication. And there are more accomplishments that I could talk about.

But instead, let me just say a few words about what struck me as you spoke a few weeks ago—was it?—as we were celebrating your tenure. And you spoke at some length. The rumor is that Debbie, a few times, said, cut it a bit shorter, but you went on; and the reason I think you did is what I want to speak about.

You began to talk about your years here, not in terms of the number of years, but what you have seen about this institution. And I think all of us who were there were glad that you continued to talk, because you've been here 55 years as a Member, and you've seen the changes, you've seen how there was a greater sense of working together in this place.

You saw and were a key part of sure differences and, with you, sometimes sharp questioning, but there was a greater feel of common purpose in this unparalleled institution, and you spoke how we have lost some of it.

So that's really what I wanted to focus on, because if anybody can speak

about the need for all of us who work here and all of us who are Members here, if there's anybody who can remind us of how the importance of this institution should determine how we relate to each other, it's JOHN DINGELL.

And I must confess, as I listened to your words, I felt that there had been something lost and that you reminded us it was vital that we regain. And it was interesting, you didn't really want to talk about anything else except your love for Debbie and this institution.

So you, in a sense, are Mr. Institution. And your belief in it, your belief in our need to remind ourselves as to how we must try to work together, how we must try to relate, how we must try to take our basic principles—and you really have them—to use them not as a wall, but as an opportunity to proceed.

So we owe you a lot. Your constituents owe you a lot, though you'll deny it. But all of us, I think, owe you immensely for the years you have served here, for your dedication, for your honesty, and for your reminding people in this institution why it was founded.

In that sense, I think you are the exemplar of what sparked this creation in its first place. Keep going, keep reminding, and I hope we'll begin to follow better than we have.

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I am pleased to yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GENE GREEN).

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Members, I rise tonight to honor a man that I'm proud to call a good friend and a mentor, JOHN DINGELL. Recently, JOHN became the longest-serving Member of the Congress, serving for 57 years, 5 months, and 26 days, surpassing the service record of the late Senator Robert C. Byrd.

JOHN has a storied career in the House of Representatives, and you'll hear a lot about that tonight and already have. He has served with 11 Presidents, congressional icons like Speaker Sam Rayburn from Texas, and had the opportunity to vote on landmark legislation like the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

He is the ultimate legislator for both Michigan and for America. He's also played an integral part in groundbreaking legislation, like the creation of the Medicare program, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the Clean Air Act, just to name a few.

I always think of him as chairman, though. Since 1996 I've been fortunate to serve on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, with JOHN as our committee leader for much of that time. While most associate JOHN's leadership on the committee with his tenacious government watchdog activities, I saw a leader that did not fall victim to the partisan politics that define

the current House, but instead epitomized what we are here to do—the people's business.

□ 1930

He's a true legislator. It has truly been an honor to serve with him and learn from him, and, most importantly, to call him friend. He has a partner in his wonderful wife, Deborah, and a friend who, like my wife, Helen, allows us to serve our respective districts.

JOHN, I look forward to continuing our friendship and our work together.

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY).

Mr. MARKEY. I thank the gentleman from Georgia for holding this Special Order. It is truly right and fitting that we honor this legislative giant, this man who represents everything that this institution is all about. I have served with Mr. DINGELL for 37 years on the Energy and Commerce Committee. It has been an honor every day to serve with him.

I want to tell you two stories about Mr. DINGELL. A few years ago, the Energy and Commerce Committee was made a part of a conference committee that was going to create something called Farmer Mac, which was a new security that was going to be issued. Mr. DINGELL and I were not happy that Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae had been exempted from the Securities and Exchange Commission jurisdiction. We were not happy.

And so I arrived a little bit late to this conference, which was an Agriculture Committee conference with the Senate. I arrived and I sat next to Mr. DINGELL. At the time, I was the chairman of the Securities Subcommittee of the Energy and Commerce Committee. Mr. DINGELL had been doing all the negotiating. He turned to me about a half hour into the conference and just wrote out a note and passed it over to me. I read the note, and Mr. DINGELL got up and left the room. So I continued to negotiate on behalf of Mr. DINGELL and the Commerce Committee.

At the end of the day, we won everything that we were looking for. Farmer Mac securities were going to be regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission. It wasn't going to be like Freddie Mac. It wasn't going to be like Fannie Mae. And so at the end of the conference, I just took the piece of paper and crumbled it up and threw it into the wastepaper basket and I walked out of the conference room.

About an hour later, we were out on the House floor and Kika de la Garza, chairman of the Agriculture Committee, came over to me and he had the piece of paper that was crumbled. He had actually gone into the wastepaper basket to see what was on the note that Mr. DINGELL had passed to me. And here is what the note says, as Kika de la Garza is reading it to me. It said:

Mr. Markey, we have just won the first two out of three issues with the Agriculture

Committee. Do not give an inch to them on the third issue.

And we did not. Chairman de la Garza looked at me and said, You Commerce Committee guys, you're not like the other people here in the House.

And that was JOHN DINGELL. It was an important issue. It was ensuring that the Securities Exchange Commission would in fact monitor these securities.

By the way, would we have not been better off all along than allowing these agencies to escape the scrutiny which they deserved?

And so that then brings me to the second little story. The seven most feared words ever uttered in Congress are words uttered by JOHN DINGELL as a witness is sitting at the table waiting for questioning, and those seven feared words are, "I am just a poor Polish lawyer." Because that's the beginning of a very bad day for a witness as Mr. DINGELL asks for explanations on detailed questions without any mercy shown to an unprepared witness.

For me, it's an honor to be here to honor JOHN DINGELL, who is still at the top of his game, still able to perform those same type of cross-examinations of witnesses as they tremble, knowing that this legislative giant is about to cross-examine.

I thank him for his service. I thank the wonderful Debbie for giving him to us for his service here. I thank him for the honor of being able to serve on that committee for 37 years with a legislative legend who will go down in history.

One of the first things he wants you to know when you got on that committee was that there was a map of the entire world—the globe—over his head; and he just wanted us to know, as we got on the committee, that that was the jurisdiction of the committee—the entire planet. And that is how he acted as that giant over all those years.

It was an honor to have served with you.

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. I want to thank the gentleman from Massachusetts and congratulate him on the beatification he's received by the voters of his State as he's about to join the other body. I wish him every success in the Senate, to which I can add that the next most feared seven words uttered to any witness is, "Please answer the question 'yes' or 'no.'"

At this time, I am pleased to yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO).

Mr. TONKO. Thank you to the gentleman from the great State of Georgia.

It's an honor to lend my voice to that of several of my colleagues as we pay tribute to Representative JOHN DINGELL from the great State of Michigan. I am only in my third term in the House of Representatives so I can't profess to have known JOHN DINGELL as long as most of my colleagues who have known this great gentleman for quite some time. But as anyone serving

in this House soon learns, it doesn't take very much time to know JOHN DINGELL and to assess the greatness of this individual, one who carries himself with great humility, which I believe is his hallmark of representation.

His identity with common folks through our many conversations about the richness of the Polish culture and the embarking upon the American Dream of immigrants of that persuasion and of all persuasions who have tethered that dream for the betterment of individual and family opportunities is, I think, what drives this individual. His motivation to be a public servant is obvious. It's well-documented by his many years of service—57 years in this House and dating back to 1938 as a page.

His service to this Nation through the military, all of that driven, I believe, by the great, deep-rooted sense of opportunity that is borne by this Nation to many of those immigrants who traveled here and then developed that dream through generations to follow.

JOHN DINGELL is a person of greatness and a person whose institutional memory of so many issues in this House is called upon time and time again.

□ 1940

As a recently appointed member to the Energy and Commerce Committee, I marvel at the sense of involvement that he has had and his recall on the development of so many bills, bills that speak to the protection of our environment, making certain that the air we breathe, the water we drink, the soil that we cultivate is there for us for a better future. That resulted from JOHN DINGELL's passion.

His involvement in making certain that the auto industry was not only saved, but made stronger, a great commitment by JOHN DINGELL. His incorporation of the many acts of concern and compassion for those who require access and affordability to quality health care, well documented again; driven by the roots established by his dad that enabled him to bang that gavel when we were passing the Affordable Care Act in 2010.

So many, many stories in just a short time that I learned from this gentleman that empower me. His direction, his instruction, his concern, his guidance, his encouragement and his praise of any of us, routinely done by this very, very generous man, strengthens us and gives us that motivation to go forward. And what he has always taught us, what he has said to me repeatedly: your word is your honor in this business.

I can't help but think what the House would be like if it were filled with JOHN DINGELLS, where there was respect for your colleagues, where there was drive and passion to make a difference for America's great many working families, where there was a sense of honor and respect for this work, and where there was this attachment to the

American Dream that ennobles and empowers this arena. He has taught us the nobility—with a small “n”—of the art and science of politics. He will forever be the measuring stick of quality service and representation, the consummate Representative, JOHN DINGELL.

JOHN, it's an honor to serve with you. I wish you well as you continue to build upon your legacy. And thank you and Debbie for being such a well-respected, much-loved couple in this town, our Nation's Capital, Washington, D.C. God bless you, my friend.

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. I thank the gentleman for participating in this evening's Special Order.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I'm very pleased to yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE).

Mr. KILDEE. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Let me just say that, while we are obviously here to give honor and recognize the service of Mr. DINGELL, the honor, at least from where I stand, the honor is really all mine to be able to participate in this moment, Mr. Speaker.

I grew up in Michigan. I was born in 1958, 3 years after Mr. DINGELL began his service in this body. I grew up in Michigan politics. And if you come from Michigan and if you're interested in politics or government, you know a lot about JOHN DINGELL. His name is really synonymous not only with politics and government, but is synonymous with all the good that comes with service in government.

We hear so much these days, of course, about the public's opinion of the work that we do and the often cynical nature of public opinion when it comes to government. Well, JOHN really represents all the best in public service and has been a role model for so many people like me, who have had a chance to observe him and watch and learn from the great example that he sets.

He, after 21 years in this body, was joined by my uncle, Dale Kildee, my predecessor, who was elected to serve in the Congress in 1976. For 36 years, the two served together. So while I knew of Mr. DINGELL as an observer of politics as a young man as he and my uncle serving together so closely and so well, I felt like in many ways JOHN became a part, and we became a part, of his extended family. I have often felt that JOHN and Debbie are so close that I can always rely and count on them for counsel and advice and for friendship because it does feel very much like family.

For the whole time during that period that I knew JOHN, I didn't call him JOHN; I always called him Mr. Chairman or Mr. DINGELL. I will never forget the first day on January 3, just 6 months ago, when I was sworn in Congress. I came over to shake his hand and I called him Mr. Chairman, and he said, No, call me JOHN; we are friends.

We represent an amazing and beautiful State. I always look at JOHN as a

role model, as an example of somebody who, in a position of tremendous authority within this institution, understood how to advance the interests of the State of Michigan by balancing the very important need to be a great and protective steward of the natural beauty and natural assets that make Michigan such a unique place that we both love so much, but to also be able to keep and breathe life into the great capacity of the workforce, particularly of our great industry—and particularly the automotive industry, which was born in our State, and which JOHN has been such a careful advocate for and steward on behalf of. He has seen some difficult times and has helped to steer that industry through tough times, and now seeing it obviously have new life and new vitality. Much of that—a great deal of that—is attributable directly to his perseverance and his willingness to take on a fight and see it through to the very end.

There's no other issue more than health care that I think makes it clear the value of perseverance and the perseverance that he had demonstrated for so many years, term in and term out, reintroducing in this body something that his father first brought to the Congress, and that is the basic right of every American citizen to not ever have to go to bed at night worrying about whether their own health would stand between them and the long-term viability of their own family. JOHN was here not only to see that battle fought, but actually see it brought to a successful conclusion.

So 6 months ago, when I walked onto this floor and realized a dream that I had been contemplating for a very long time—to serve in what I think is still and always will be the greatest democratic body in the history of this planet—it was a great honor to become a Member of Congress; but perhaps an even greater honor, to be able to call JOHN DINGELL a colleague—not just a friend, not just a mentor, not just somebody that I had looked up to, but a person with whom I now serve.

I was elected to succeed my own uncle. I would like to think that we have some things in common, Mr. DINGELL. And one of the things is you were elected to represent your district to succeed your very own father. I think that what you've demonstrated is that you obviously have your first obligation to serve your Nation, to serve the interests of the people that you represent, but also to do great service to the legacy of your predecessor. I can only imagine what your father must think, looking here and now seeing that not only have you taken up the mantle from him, but have served so long, but more importantly so ably in advancing the goals and the values that he embodied when he came here, and that you were able to see them through to fruition.

So thank you so much for allowing me just a few minutes as a freshman—with not a lot of old stories about the

House, but with great admiration for the man who has been here for so long.

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. I thank the gentleman for his participation. I would note that he, like our honoree, exemplifies the truth that is written in Proverbs: A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver or gold.

At this time, I am pleased to recognize the gentlelady from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS).

Ms. EDWARDS. I want to thank my colleague, Mr. BARROW, for leading this Special Order.

I am just so honored really to be here to celebrate and honor somebody I call a friend, JOHN DINGELL.

I notice, as we're talking here today and as so many have approached the podium, that everyone who approaches says: JOHN DINGELL, my friend, my colleague, my mentor, someone I look up to, someone I respect. I would just like to say to my good friend from Michigan that I can't really change those words because they echo my own sentiments.

□ 1950

I want to share with you—and so many of us have talked about the long legislative legacy of JOHN DINGELL. As I sat here, Mr. DINGELL, I thought, well, I too, when you came into Congress, I had not been born yet. It was about 3 years before I entered the world. When you took that courageous vote in support of the Voting Rights Act and civil rights, I was 6-years-old. I recall at the time living here in the Washington metropolitan area that my father and mother used to bring us to this Capitol almost every Sunday after church. They would bring us and we would run up and down the east front of the Capitol. We would picnic on the west front of the Capitol.

I am thinking today how wonderful it is to know that there was someone who was in this institution who so valued this institution and who, even when I was a 6-year old, JOHN DINGELL was working to protect my rights. When I think about that, Mr. DINGELL, I think of all of the Members who lined up even before we began this Special Order and talked about the need to work in a bipartisan way to make sure that we create a formula for the Voting Rights Act that the Supreme Court would support, that institutes and puts into place the formula for the way that we protect our voting rights in section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, and almost to one, including JOHN LEWIS, none of us would be here had you not had the courage to take that vote in 1964.

So it's such an honor to serve with you and to know that while that may have been the battle in 1964, that you are fully prepared to engage in the battle here in 2013, and what an honor that we all have the great privilege of being able to serve with JOHN DINGELL.

I almost think, and Mr. KILDEE mentioned this, but I almost think there is hardly anything that impacts our modern day laws that we can't attribute to

the great hard work and public service of JOHN DINGELL. The fact that I got up this morning and turned on a faucet and ran a glass of water and was able to drink it and know that it was clean, was about JOHN DINGELL. That I walked outside today, and even on a stuffy day like this, knew that I could breathe air that was okay—we still have work to do, Mr. DINGELL—but to know that that clean air, and the cleaner we make our air, is attributed to JOHN DINGELL.

I think back to my grandmother who came to live with us at a point as she was aging—and it was actually just prior to the passage of Medicare—and how different families' lives are now because of the protections that they have for health care as they age and are disabled. Those things are attributable to the great work, the legislative legacy and the service of JOHN DINGELL.

So here we are today, and when I first came into Congress, I came in a different kind of way. One day JOHN DINGELL pulled me aside in the cloak room and he said, "Come sit down, I want to talk to you, I want to get to know you." And I was, frankly, afraid of him. I knew his history, I had watched several Energy and Commerce hearings, and I knew that he was a great friend of my predecessor—a great friend of my predecessor.

I sat down and I talked to him, and what I gained from JOHN DINGELL was the kind of honor and dedication that he has, and reverence that he has, for this institution. It is unlike any that we see, and we learn from that. So we talked, and we became friends.

Then a funny thing happened. Barack Obama was elected President of the United States, and an inauguration was coming forward, and again another reminder that JOHN DINGELL's 50 years of service are about this amazing legislative work, but it is also about the people of his district—the children, women, men, families, of his district.

There was a high school in his district—actually, I'm not quite sure it was still in his district, but at one time he represented that high school—and they had gotten the great gift of being able to play in the inaugural parade for President Obama. Somehow or other things got confused and they were staying in a hotel that was many, many miles, a couple of hours away, from Washington, D.C., and they would have had to get up at 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning to get to the staging area on time. I represent a district just outside of Washington, D.C., in Maryland. JOHN DINGELL reached out to me and he told me this story, and I said, Well, maybe we can figure out something.

We found a high school out in Prince George's County, Maryland, and a parent-teacher organization and the students. They welcomed these students from Michigan that they didn't know at all into their high school. They fed them pizzas and sodas and everything. So the students were able to actually get to the inaugural parade on time.

JOHN DINGELL and I have been locked at the hand and the hip ever since. Those students were so grateful to him. What I saw in this great legislator is that the people of his district really did come first and he looked out for them, and they knew that he looked out for them. Like I said, I don't know whether he still represented them or not. I suppose over that 57 years, the way lines get drawn, at some point or other he did and he didn't, and he did and he didn't.

But whatever, he thought of them as his constituents and they thought of him as their Member of Congress. I thought that that is the kind of Member of Congress that I want to be. I think there are so many of us who serve in this institution who really do value it and who listen, who really listen to the message that JOHN DINGELL gave us about the need to work together and to preserve and protect our democracy by working in a kind of way that gives value and service to all of our communities and to this great Nation. So for that, I want to thank JOHN DINGELL for being such an important part of this institution and important part of the way I have learned to become a Member of Congress.

I want to say, just finally, on health care, when I came to the Congress, I had had an experience of not having had health care and getting very sick and going to an emergency room and having a lot of bills that I couldn't pay because I didn't have health insurance. When we gaveled in that health care bill, the Affordable Care Act, it was JOHN DINGELL sitting as speaker pro tempore who gaveled in the Affordable Care Act with the gavel that he used for Medicare.

Then during the course of that debate, I helped to gavel in the debate on health care. There was one moment that JOHN DINGELL was speaking on the floor about his father's experience and about his experience working on health care. I was sitting in as speaker pro tempore. Mr. DINGELL, I will never forget that picture because for me it was what we do as legislators, but it also felt very personal, and it felt so wonderful to know that in your service you never stopped not a single day of the 57 years to make sure that millions of Americans like me could have health care that was quality and that was affordable and that was accessible. So I thank you so much for your service, and I am so honored to serve with you.

□ 2000

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. I thank the gentlelady.

At this time, I am pleased to recognize the gentlelady from New Hampshire (Ms. SHEA-PORTER).

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Thank you very much.

I would like to add my voice to the others here in speaking about this wonderful man, JOHN DINGELL, who, I'm sure, is quite embarrassed as we talk about him because he has a great deal

of humility, which is rather unusual here, so he stands out for that.

When I first won election in 2006 and came in in early 2007, I knew about JOHN DINGELL. I had taught politics and history. I knew his great reputation as a legislator—I knew a lot about him—but what I didn't know about him is what I want to talk about.

When I first arrived, you heard a lot of people call him "friend" because he has a gift for friendship. He uses the words "my friend" all the time, and you believe him. He really has a gift for friendship.

So he said, Sit down here, my friend.

And I sat and I talked to the great JOHN DINGELL, and he asked me about me instead of telling me about him. I, too, was pretty overwhelmed at the idea that I was going to be this wonderful man's colleague. He has taught me a lot through the years, but any time you want a little bit of wisdom, we know you can just go sit with JOHN DINGELL. He sits there very quietly, and people come to him. If you just want to have a quiet chat, JOHN DINGELL is available. If you want to remind yourself that civility exists here in this Chamber, sit next to JOHN DINGELL because he is always civil; he is polite; he is intelligent; he is warm; and he cares about the people.

Now, he has done a wonderful job in representing Michigan, but he has always done a wonderful job in representing New Hampshire and every other State in the country. Through his legislation, we are so much better, but through his presence here, we as Members of Congress look better, too.

So I want to thank you, JOHN DINGELL, for all that you've done for me and for all of our colleagues and for this country. I wish you the best of health and many more years in serving America.

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. I thank the gentlelady.

Mr. Speaker, I recall the words of Thomas Carlyle. He was an advocate of the Great Man theory of history.

Carlyle wrote: "History is but the biography of great men." If that's true, then the legislative history of this country for over half a century has been but the biography of JOHN DINGELL.

With gratitude for the service, for the example, and for the friendship of our honoree and with the greatest of affection for our honoree, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL), who would like an opportunity at rebuttal.

Mr. DINGELL. I don't know whether to rebut or to agree.

I want to begin by thanking Mr. HOYER, our leader and our whip, and my dear friend Mr. BARROW, a wonderful, courageous gentleman from Georgia, who has to fight very hard to remain here.

I am proud that you are my friend. Thank you.

You, DAN KILDEE, bear a great family name. Your uncle was my dear friend.

I am satisfied that he is going to be very, very proud of you, and I am grateful for your friendship.

I want to thank my old friend GENE GREEN from Texas for his kind words about me. He is a wonderful man. He has a wonderful wife. He is concerned with and cares about people.

And I want to say how much the remarks of my colleague from Maryland, DONNA EDWARDS, meant to me.

DONNA, you are a wonderful lady.

There is a story about her. I worked awfully hard to see to it that her predecessor was able to stay here, but, by golly, she was so good that he never stood a chance despite everything I could do to save him. She has made me proud that she is here. She is a great lady and full of goodness. The story she told about the kids was just a story about her goodness, because she saw to it that these wonderful young people had a place to stay here during the President's inauguration when they were going to play and march in the parade.

I want to say to my old friend SANDER LEVIN how grateful I am to him. Our families have been friends and have a history that's interwoven with affection and friendship going back into the 1920s when I was just a glint in my dad's eye.

I want to also say to Mr. MARKEY, our colleague who is going to be leaving us, how much we have cherished his friendship and his valuable service on the Commerce Committee and how proud I am of his service. He and I have had the opportunity of engaging in some fights over the jurisdiction of the committee when they were trying to raid the Commerce Committee, and we found—guess what?—when the fight was over, every time that he and I were involved in it, we had more jurisdiction than we'd had when we went into the fight.

To you, my wonderful friend CAROL SHEA-PORTER, what a wonderful lady you are, and how proud we are that we have a friend like you here who cares about people and who works so hard for them, and I am proud of the words that you have said.

To my Polish colleague, PAUL TONKO from New York, we Polacks—and I am very proud to be a Pole—are very, very concerned about loyalty and friendship and about homes, and he certainly exemplifies that and the goodness.

I am proud of the little things I've been able to do while I've been here. I am prouder even still more of the people I've been able to serve and help, and I am very grateful for the friendship of the people of southeast Michigan. The legislature has redistricted me so many times that they can't find a place now that they can put me that I haven't served before. So I have a great deal to be grateful for.

My father was a wonderful public servant, and he taught me that we here are public servants. We are not masters of the people—we are their servants. This is reason for us to be particularly

proud because that is the highest calling of all.

So to you, my colleagues, who have so graciously and kindly made this rather embarrassing evening possible for me, I express to you my thanks and my gratitude for your friendship and for reminding me that there still is the wonderful warmth of friendship and goodness in this institution. The lovely Deborah, my wife, and I thank you for your friendship and kindness.

To all of the other colleagues whom we are serving with now and those with whom we have served before who are no longer with us, we are grateful to them, and we are proud.

This is the greatest Nation in the world. We are part of the greatest experience and the greatest experiment in the history of mankind—an experiment in government, which gives equality and opportunity to all of us. We are reminded that serving and saving and protecting those people whom we serve and the values that they hold dear is a tremendously important concern, one which we are going to have to go to bat about again to see to it that the Voting Rights Act is extended because the protections of the rights of our people—the greatest of all in the right to vote—are not yet fully assured.

So, to all of my colleagues tonight who have been so gracious and kind to me, I express to you my thanks and gratitude. It's a privilege to serve with you. It's even a greater privilege to have you for friends and to have you be people up to whom I can look for your goodness and decency and concern and for the service which you so gladly and generously give to the people of the United States and to the people you represent in your different districts.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I yield back with great gratitude to my dear friend from Georgia and with my thanks to all of my colleagues who have spoken excessively kindly about me tonight.

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 2010

PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE AND AN ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RICE) laid before the House the following privileged concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 19) providing for conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON RES. 19

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Thursday, June 27, 2013, through Friday, July 5, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until 12:00 noon on Monday, July

8, 2013, or such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Friday, June 28, 2013, through Friday, July 5, 2013, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Monday, July 8, 2013, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify the Members of the Senate and House, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the concurrent resolution is concurred in.

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, June 28, 2013, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2005. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Frank J. Kisner, United States Air Force, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2006. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Robert R. Allardice, United States Air Force, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2007. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Douglas H. Owens, United States Air Force, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

2008. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a report on the Defense Production Act (DPA) Title III fund for Fiscal Year 2012; to the Committee on Financial Services.

2009. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations (Harris County, TX); [Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-B-1164] [Docket ID: FEMA-2013-0002] received June 18, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.